

TITLE 16. MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Medical Board of California (hereinafter referred to as the Board) is proposing to take the action described in the Informative Digest. Any person interested may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the action proposed at a hearing to be held in the Board's Greg Gorges Conference Room, 1426 Howe Ave, Suite F, Sacramento, California, at 10:00 am on April 25, 2003. Written comments, including those sent by mail, facsimile, or e-mail to the addresses listed under Contact Person in this Notice, must be received by the Medical Board of California at its office not later than 5:00 p.m. on April 7, 2003 or must be received by the Board at the hearing. The Board, upon its own motion or at the instance of any interested party, may thereafter adopt the proposals substantially as described below or may modify such proposals if such modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal will be available for 15 days prior to its adoption from the person designated in this Notice as contact person and will be mailed to those persons who submit written or oral testimony related to this proposal or who have requested notification of any changes to the proposal.

Authority and Reference: Pursuant to the authority vested by Sections 2018 and 2154.6 of the Business and Professions Code, and to implement, interpret or make specific Sections 2154 through 2154.7 of said Code, the Medical Board of California is considering changes to Division 13 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations as follows:

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Proposed Adoption of Article 3.1 (Section 1313.01 to 1313.06) in Chapter 1 of Division 13 of Title 16, CCR

Existing law (AB 982, Chap. 1131, Statutes of 2002), among other things, creates the California Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program. This new program encourages recently licensed physicians who are linguistically and culturally competent to practice in underserved locations in California by authorizing a plan for repayment of up to \$105,000 of their educational loans in exchange for their service in designated medically underserved areas for a minimum of three years. The Medical Board of California will make available \$3 million to fund the program. The Division of Licensing of the Medical Board of California is responsible for implementing this program.

1. Section 1313.01 - This section would set forth the definitions to be used in implementing the loan repayment program.
2. Section 1313.02 - This section would set forth the guidelines to be used in selecting the awardees of the loan repayment.
3. Section 1313.03 - This section would set forth the application and application process.

4. Section 1313.04 - This section would set forth the timeline, as required by the Permit Reform Act, by which the Division of Licensing must inform the applicant if the application is complete or deficient and the must inform the applicant of the final decision on the application.
5. Section 1313.05 - This section would establish the process and penalties when a program participant is unable to complete the contractual obligations, including various time frames for notification by either the program participant or the Division of Licensing.
6. Section 1313.06 - This section would create the process under which a program participant who has left the program can be reinstated into the program.

FISCAL IMPACT ESTIMATES

Fiscal Impact on Public Agencies Including Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: These proposed regulations will not impose any costs or savings to any State agency since these regulations only comprise the technical and administrative frame work for a program created in law.

Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None

Local Mandate: None

Cost to Any Local Agency or School District for Which Government Code Sections 17500 through 17630 Requires Reimbursement: None

Business Impact:

The board has made an initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would have no significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

AND

The following studies/relevant data were relied upon in making the above determination:
none

Impact on Jobs/New Businesses:

The Medical Board of California has determined that this regulatory proposal will not have any impact on the creation of jobs or new businesses or the elimination of jobs or existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in the State of California.

Cost Impact on Representative Private Person or Business:

The Medical Board of California is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

Effect on Housing Costs: None

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS

The Medical Board of California has determined that the proposed regulations would not affect small businesses. These proposed regulations implement a loan repayment program for individuals, not businesses.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

The Medical Board of California must determine that no reasonable alternative which it considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would either be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposal described in this Notice.

Any interested person may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the above determinations at the above-mentioned hearing.

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND INFORMATION

The Medical Board of California has prepared an initial statement of the reasons for the proposed action and has available all the information upon which the proposal is based.

TEXT OF PROPOSAL

Copies of the exact language of the proposed regulations and of the initial statement of reasons, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained at the hearing or prior to the hearing upon request from the person designated in this Notice under Contact Person or by accessing the website listed below.

AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE

All the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file which is available for public inspection by contacting the person named below.

You may obtain a copy of the final statement of reasons once it has been prepared, by making a written request to the person designated in this Notice under Contact Person or by accessing the website listed below.

CONTACT PERSON

Inquiries or comments concerning the proposed administrative action may be addressed to:

Name: Kevin A. Schunke
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The backup contact person is:

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Website Access: Materials regarding this proposal can be found at www.medbd.ca.gov.